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cont
SB*

- melt flow index measured according to ASTM D 1238 at 190°C/21.6 kg of between 5 and 100.

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21 (Twice Amended) A binder according to claim 1, in which the relative density of the polymer (A) + the polyethylene (B) is between 0.930 and 0.940.

B3

32 (Twice Amended) A multilayer structure comprising a layer comprising the binder of Claim 1, directly attached to said binder, a layer (E) selected from the group consisting of a layer of a nitrogen-containing or oxygen-containing polar resin, a layer of polyamide resin, a layer of an aliphatic polyketone, a layer of a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer (EVOH), a layer of a polyester resin, and a metal layer.

B4

8. (Amended) A multilayer structure comprising a layer comprising the binder of claim 2, directly attached to said binder, a layer (E) selected from the group consisting of a layer of a nitrogen-containing or oxygen-containing polar resin, a layer of polyamide resin, a layer of an aliphatic polyketone, a layer of a saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer (EVOH), a layer of a polyester resin, and a metal layer.

Please add the following claims:

*SB
D2*

9. A coextrusion binder according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene (A1) is a polyethylene homopolymer or an ethylene copolymer with a comonomer of an α -olefin having from 3 - 30 carbon atoms, an ester of an unsaturated carboxylic acid, or a vinyl ester of a saturated carboxylic acid.

B5

10. A coextrusion binder according to claim 1, wherein the polymer (A2) is an ethylene/propylene elastomer, an ethylene/propylene/diene elastomer, an ethylene homopolymer, an ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer, or a metallocene polyethylene.

Sub D3

11. A multilayer structure according to claim 3, wherein the layer (E) is the polyamide resin comprising at least one structural unit of PA-6; PA-6,6; PA-6,10; PA-11; PA-6/6,6; or PA-12.

Sub D3

12. A multilayer structure according to claim 3, wherein the layer (E) is the saponified ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer having a degree of saponification of about 90 - 100 mol%.

Sub D3

13. A multilayer structure according to claim 3, wherein the layer (E) is the polyester resin of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene naphthenate, or a blend thereof.

Sub D3

14. A multilayer structure according to claim 3, wherein the layer (E) is a metal of aluminum, iron, copper, tin, nickel, or alloy thereof.

Sub D3

15. A binder according to claim 1, wherein the relative density of the polyethylene (A1) is 0.940 - 0.965.

Sub D4

16. A binder according to claim 1, wherein the relative density of the polyethylene (A1) is 0.940 - 0.958.

Sub D4

17. A binder according to claim 1, wherein the polymer (A2) is an ethylene copolymer with a comonomer of propylene or 1-octene.

Sub E

18. A binder according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene (B) has a relative density of 0.934 - 0.938.

Sub E

19. A coextrusion binder consisting essentially of:
- 5 to 30 parts of a polymer (A) comprising a blend of a polyethylene (A1) of relative density between 0.935 and 0.980 and of a polymer (A2) of an elastomer, a very low-density polyethylene or an ethylene copolymer, the (A1) + (A2) blend being cogenerated with

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cont

an unsaturated carboxylic acid; and

- 95 to 70 parts of a polyethylene (B) of relative density between 0.930 and 0.950;

the blend of the polymer (A) and the polyethylene (B) having:

- a relative density between 0.930 and 0.950,
- a content of grafted unsaturated carboxylic acid of between 30 and 10,000 ppm, and
- a melt flow index measured according to ASTM D 1238 at 190°C/21.6 kg of between 5 and 100.